WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An image processing apparatus comprising:

imaging means for imaging an object and obtaining moving image data composed of a plurality of frames;

5   storing means for storing additional information indicating contents of events that occurred during the imaging of the moving image data by said imaging means into a storage;

dividing means for dividing the moving image data

10   for one shot into a plurality of sub-shots based on the events indicated by said additional information stored in the storage; and

selecting means for selecting a key frame from the moving image data of each sub-shot divided by said

15   dividing means in accordance with the additional information.

2.   The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the additional information includes an action information

20   associated with an action which was made during the imaging of the moving image data.

3.   The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the action information includes information associated with

25   a zoom action.

4.   The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the additional information includes an environment information associated with an imaging environment during the imaging of the moving image data.

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5.   The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the environment information includes information associated with a pan action.

10   6.   The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the moving image data acquired from the beginning to the end of the imaging by the imaging means corresponds to said one shot.

15   7.   The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the additional information includes an action information associated with an action which was made during the imaging of the moving image data and an environment information associated with an imaging environment

20   during the imaging of the moving image data, and wherein said selecting means selects the key frame using different criteria depending on whether the key frame is selected in accordance with the action information or the environment information.

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8.   The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

detecting means for detecting that the number
of sub-shots obtained by dividing the moving image data
for one shot is excessive; and
canceling means for canceling division made based
5   on a predetermined event according to a detection
result of said detecting means.

9.   The apparatus according to claim 1, further
comprising:
10   detecting means for detecting an event type
which occurred at a high frequency of occurrence during
the imaging of the moving image data according to the
additional information stored in the storage; and
controlling means for controlling the division
15   means so as to stop the division into the sub-shots
based on the event type detected by said detecting
means.

10.   An image processing method comprising the steps
20   of:
imaging an object and obtaining moving image data
composed of a plurality of frames;
storing additional information indicating
contents of events that occurred during the imaging of
25   the moving image data into a storage;
dividing the moving image data for one shot into
a plurality of sub-shots based on the events indicated

- 42 -

by said additional information stored in the storage; and

selecting a key frame from the moving image data of each sub-shot divided by said dividing step in accordance with the additional information.

11.   The method according to claim 10, wherein the events include an action information wherein the additional information includes an action information associated with an action which was made during the imaging of the moving image data.

12.   The method according to claim 11, wherein the action information includes information associated with a zoom action.

13.   The method according to claim 10, wherein the additional information includes an environment information associated with an imaging environment during the imaging of the moving image data.

14.   The method according to claim 13, wherein the environment information includes information associated with a pan action.

15.   The method according to claim 10, wherein the moving image data acquired from the beginning to the

end of the imaging of the moving image data corresponds
to said one shot.

16.   The method according to claim 10, wherein the
additional information includes an action information
associated with an action which was made during the
imaging of the moving image data and an environment
information associated with an imaging environment
during the imaging of the moving image data, and
wherein said selecting step selects the key frame using
different criteria depending on whether the key frame
is selected in accordance with the action information
or the environment information.

17.   The method according to claim 10, further
comprising the steps of:
        detecting that the number of sub-shots obtained
by dividing the moving image data for one shot is
excessive; and
        canceling division made based on a predetermined
event according to a detection result of said detecting
step.

18.   The method according to claim 10, further
comprising the steps of:
        detecting an event type which occurred at a high
frequency of occurrence during the imaging of the

moving image data according to the additional

information stored in the storage; and

controlling the division step so as to stop the

division into the sub-shots based on the event type

5   detected by said detecting step.

19.   A program for controlling an image processing

apparatus, comprising:

code to image an object and obtain moving image

10   data composed of a plurality of frames;

code to store additional information indicating

contents of events that occurred during the imaging of

the moving image data into a storage;

code to divide the moving image data for one shot

15   into a plurality of sub-shots based on the events

indicated by said additional information stored in the

storage; and

code to select a key frame from the moving image

data of each sub-shot in accordance with the additional

20   information.

20.   An image processing apparatus comprising:

imaging means for imaging an object and for

obtaining moving image data composed of a plurality of

25   frames;

storing means for storing an additional

information including an action information associated

with actions made during the imaging of the moving

image data, and an environment information associated

with an image sensing environment during the imaging of

the moving image data; and

5   selecting means for selecting a plurality of key

frames from the moving image data for one shot

according to the additional information stored in the

storage,

wherein said selecting means selects the key

10   frames using different criteria depending on whether

the key frame is selected in accordance with the action

information or the environment information.

21.   An image processing method comprising the steps

15   of:

imaging an object and for obtaining moving image

data composed of a plurality of frames;

storing an additional information including an

action information associated with actions made during

20   the imaging of the moving image data, and an

environment information associated with an image

sensing environment during the imaging of the moving

image data; and

selecting a plurality of key frames from the

25   moving image data for one shot according to the

additional information stored in the storage,

wherein said selecting step selects the key frames using different criteria depending on whether the key frame is selected in accordance with the action information or the environment information.

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22. A program for controlling an image processing apparatus, comprising:

code to image an object and for obtaining moving image data composed of a plurality of frames;

10 code to store an additional information including an action information associated with actions made during the imaging of the moving image data, and an environment information associated with an image sensing environment during the imaging of the moving

15 image data; and

code to select a plurality of key frames from the moving image data for one shot according to the additional information stored in the storage,

wherein said selecting step selects the key

20 frames using different criteria depending on whether the key frame is selected in accordance with the action information or the environment information.

23. An image processing apparatus comprising:

25 input means for inputting moving image data composed of a plurality of frames obtained by imaging an object;

a storage which stores an additional information
indicating contents of events that occurred during
imaging of the moving image data;

dividing means for dividing the moving image data

5   for one shot into a plurality of sub-shots based on the
events indicated by said additional information stored
in the storage; and

selecting means for selecting a key frame from
the moving image data of each sub-shot divided by said

10   dividing means in accordance with the additional
information.

24.   An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said
input means includes reproducing means for reproducing

15   the moving image data from a rerecording medium.

25.   An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the
additional information includes an operation
information indicating an operation relating to the

20   imaging of the moving image data during imaging of the
moving image data.

26.   An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the
additional information includes an environment

25   information indicating an imaging environment during
the imaging of the moving image data.

27.   An apparatus according to claim 23, further comprising:

detecting means for comparing the number of sub-shots obtained by dividing the moving image data for one shot and a threshold value and for detecting that the number of sub-shots is excessive; and

decreasing means for decreasing the number of sub-shots for said one shot according to a detection result of said detecting means.

28.   An image processing method comprising the steps of:

inputting moving image data composed of a plurality of frames obtained by imaging an object;

storing an additional information indicating contents of events that occurred during imaging of the moving image data into a storage;

dividing the moving image data for one shot into a plurality of sub-shots based on the events indicated by said additional information stored in the storage; and

selecting a key frame from the moving image data of each sub-shot divided by said dividing step in accordance with the additional information.